

Alaska Interagency Coordination Center





Morning Highlights

Friday, June 17, 2011 Morning Highlights Time: 11:45 a.m.

Contacts
Alaska Interagency Fire Information Center: (907) 356-5511

Report Fires: 911

Wildland Fire Update

Two new fires were reported yesterday. The 30 acre **Hahanuta Fire** is 24 miles east of Huslia, burning in black spruce and tundra. Eight smokejumpers are on the fire, and containment is expected on Saturday. The **Talkeetna Spur Rd Fire** near Talkeetna is a structure fire that spread into the wildlands. Department of Forestry firefighters extinguished the wildlands portion and placed the fire in monitor status. Statewide, 35 fires are currently active, with six of these staffed and the remainder in monitor status. There have been 325 fires this year to date in Alaska, and 263,182 acres have burned. Current fires of note include:

The **Hastings Fire**, 15 miles northwest of Fairbanks, remains at 23,110 acres and is now 41 percent contained. Fire behavior is mainly smoldering and creeping ground fire. Minimal fire spread is expected. Work on the fire includes direct fireline construction, mop-up, fireline rehab, and equipment backhaul. Management of the fire transferred today at 6:00 am from a Type 1 to a Type 2 Incident Management Team.

The **East Volkmar Fire,** 25 miles northeast of Delta Junction, remains at 58,050 acres and is 28 percent contained. Rain occurred on portions of the fire, and fire activity is limited to smoldering. Crews continue to work on containment and mop-up objectives. Management of the fire transferred today at 7:00 am from a Type 2 to a Type 3 Incident Management Team.

For further information:

Alaska Fire Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf

Fire news releases: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php

Fire Weather

Most of the state will see warming and drying weather through the weekend. Thunderstorms and showers will persist along the Alaska and northeast Brooks Ranges. The southwest will be cooler and damper. Clouds will increase on Sunday, and next week will present a mixture of sun, showers and thunderstorms. With warming, drying weather over the next few days, please remember to be careful with fire in the outdoors. Fuels below the surface are still dry, and Alaska's fire season is not yet over.

Aviation Awareness

The TFR ceiling on the Hastings Fire has been lowered to 4,000 MSL. The new NOTAM FDC is 1/8460. The East Volkmar Fire (FDC 1/7595) remains unchanged. Helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft support fire suppression and crew/cargo movement throughout the state, frequently in areas with visibility restricted due to smoke. Please check NOTAMS for Temporary Flight Restrictions: http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html and report new fires to the nearest FAA facility.

Alaska Fire Information

The Alaska Interagency Fire Information Center (also called Joint Information Center or JIC) continues to be operational. The information center is an interagency communications office responsible for researching, coordinating and disseminating wildland fire information to the public and the media. The JIC is activated when fire officials determine that the number and complexity of wildland fires burning across the state call for additional public information presence and coordination. Due to the current decrease in fire activity, office hours have now been reduced to 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week. Phone 907-356-5511 for the latest fire information.

Wildland Fire Smoke

Please use caution and turn on headlights when driving in areas where visibility is impacted by smoke. Individuals with health concerns should consult personal medical providers.

- AK Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Smoke: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm
- DEC Air Quality Advisories/Alerts: https://myalaska.state.ak.us/dec/air/airtoolsweb/AirOnlineServices.aspx
- Fairbanks North Star Borough Smoke Visibility/ Air Quality: http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality and http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/Docs/ParticulateLevels.pdf

Additional References

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/
 - Map of Current Fires: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
 - Alaska Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
 - National Fire Situation Report: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
 - Guide to Wildland Fire Suppression in AK: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/psa/Media%20Guide%20to%20AK%20Wildland%20Fire%20Suppression.pdf

Fire Information Contacts

- Alaska Interagency Fire Information Center
- 0 907-356-5511
- o AlaskaJIC@gmail.com
- Hastings Fire Information:
- 0 907-479-4801
- o http://inciweb.org/incident/2261/
- o <u>HastingsFire@gmail.com</u>
- East Volkmar Fire Information:
- 0 907-328-8593
- http://inciweb.org/incident/2253/
- o FireInfoDAF@gmail.com
- Fairbanks Area Division of Forestry Fire Information:
- o Terry Anderson: 451-2626 x2
- o FireInfoFAF@gmail.com

- Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group Education and Reference Materials: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php
- Protect your home and property!: http://firewise.org/ and http://firewise.org/ and http://firewise.org/
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, http://511.alaska.gov/
- National Parks Service: http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: http://www.fws.gov/fire/
- USDA Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- National Weather Service: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html
- Federal Aviation Administration: http://www.faa.gov/

AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Alaska Division of Forestry and BLM Alaska Fire Service.